

Oregon State Legislature State Capitol Salem, OR

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Senate Committee on Rules Passes Walkout Accountability Measure

SALEM – The Senate Committee on Rules approved a bill Wednesday to bar Legislators from using campaign funds to pay for fines or expenses associated with unexcused absences. Senate Bill 1510 now goes to the Senate Floor.

"It is sad that this bill is necessary, but the Senate Republicans have refused to show up for work three times in the last 10 months," said Senate Majority Leader Ginny Burdick, who chairs the Senate Committee on Rules. "Currently, they can use campaign funds to pay their walkout expenses. When they choose to walk out on the job, they should have to pay out of their own pockets."

Senate Bill 1510 passed with three Aye votes with both Republican members marked absent. The bill will be added to the list of those which are ready for consideration by the full Senate, "if enough Republicans return from their taxpayer-paid vacations to provide a quorum," said Burdick.

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